



P. O. BOX 618 • ANN ARBOR • MICHIGAN • 48107

FORMERLY WILLOW RUN LABORATORIES, THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

PHONE (313) 483-0500

E 7.3 10915
CR-133572

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14 August 1973
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National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
Principal Investigator Management Office
Houston, Texas 77058

Attention: Mr. Roger D. Hicks/TF6

Contract: NAS9-13283, Study of Recreational Land and Open Space
Using Skylab Imagery, EREP No. 443

Subject: Third Monthly Report for Period 1 July 1973 through 31 July 1973

Dear Sir:

The objective of this project is to investigate and evaluate the use of S190 and S192 data over Test Site 819522 for study of recreational land and open space.

Coverage was obtained of the test area with the S190A system during the SL-2 mission. As soon as this photography is received, it will be thoroughly studied to determine its usefulness for analysis of recreational land and open space.

Complete coverage of the test area was obtained during Revolution 1197 on 5 August 1973 during the SL-3 mission. This coverage included S190A, S190B, and S192 data and should be adequate for detailed computer analysis. This work will be assisted by U-2 photography of Oakland County scheduled for acquisition as soon as practicable.

The Skylab data collection pass over this test site on 5 August was publicized in the Detroit Free Press on 6 August (see attached copy). It was also briefly covered on a news broadcast of Detroit television station WXYZ the same night.

Submitted by:

I. J. Sattinger
I. J. Sattinger
Principal Investigator

Approved by:

Richard R. Legault
Richard R. Legault
Director
Infrared & Optics Division

IJS:msj

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Monthly Report, 1-31 Jul. 1973
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Vol. 143—No. 94

Monday, August 6, 1973

Skylab Says Hello to State

Special to the Free Press

HOUSTON — Michigan native Jack R. Lousma radioed a happy greeting to his home state Sunday as the astronauts in Skylab 2 moved over Oakland County, mapping land features for a special parks study.

"We're making a pass over my home state, the Wolverine state of Michigan," Lousma radioed to Mission Control. "Say hello to all my Michigander friends."

Lousma, one of three astronauts on the mission, was born in Grand Rapids, attended Ann Arbor schools and is a 1959 graduate of the University of Michigan.

He and Alan L. Bean and Owen K. Garriott were using special high-powered photography equipment and an instrument called a multispectral scanner (MSS) to gather data on the geographic features of designated locations on earth, including Oakland County.

Scientists with U-M's Environmental Research Institute helped design the MSS and proposed a number of projects such as the Oakland County study to test the usefulness of the equipment.

Irvin J. Sattinger, director of the Oakland study, said data picked up by the MSS—270 miles above the earth on Skylab—can be translated by computers to show the types of trees, rivers, lakes, marshes and other natural features in the area.

Although the main purpose of Sunday's study was to test the MSS, Sattinger said the information gathered would be turned over to the Oakland County Planning Office for possible use in a master plan for recreation and parks.

Pictures and data gathered from satellites like Skylab, he said, are superior to airplane aerial photographs because a satellite can take in wide areas in one glimpse, and equipment such as the MSS makes it more precise.

The testing done over Michigan by Skylab is an extension, Sattinger said, of a study conducted with equipment on the earth



Lousma

Astronaut Lousma Bids State Hello

● Continued from Page 1A ●

resources technology satellite — an unmanned satellite launched last July.

Land-based scientists, deepsea anglers and charter fishing boat skippers joined in the effort to relate physical characteristics of the Gulf of Mexico south of Panama City, Fla., to the distribution of game fish.

Nine federal research boats and 60 private craft participated in the project sponsored by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.

The astronauts later rehearsed for their first space walk Monday when they will unfurl a second sunshade over the eight-room station, put fresh film in sun-watching cameras, inspect the crippled Apollo ferry ship and check for wiring damage from a short circuit.

The short knocked out one of two sun-watching television systems in Skylab's observatory Saturday. Ground controllers tuned on other equipment in the telescope assembly Sunday and initial tests went well.

In the meantime, Garriott reported that Arabella, a household spider living in a glass cage aboard the station, was "alive and kicking." The crew and scientists want to see if she can spin a web in weightlessness.

With the Apollo that took Bean's crew to Skylab eight days ago crippled by steering rocket failures, the space agency pushed work on a rescue ship to fly up to the space station and bring the astronauts home next month if necessary.

Please turn to Page 9A, Col. 1